practically possible. However their impact can be mitigated by way of suitable structural and non-structural measures. The recommendations of such Expert Committees have been circulated to concerned Ministries/States for their implementation.

Government of India has also set up a National Disaster Management Authority (NDMA) under Disaster Management Act, 2005 for management of natural calamities, including floods. The comprehensive guidelines on "Management of Floods" issued by NDMA in January, 2008, *inter alia*, provides for preparation of flood management plans at national, State and district levels covering all aspect of disaster management cycle including the implementation schedule and monitoring system. These guidelines specify roles of central Ministries and States in disaster mitigation and relief. Ministry of Home Affairs provides relief to the flood affected States under Calamity Relief Fund (CRF) and National Calamity Contingency Fund (NCCF).

In addition, for providing additional assistance to flood affected States for flood management and erosion control works in critical reaches, the Government of India has approved a State sector scheme namely "Flood Management Programme" with an estimated cost of Rs.8,000 crore for implementation during Eleventh plan. Under the scheme, no specific share of any State has been allocated. An Empowered Committee headed by Secretary (Expenditure) decides the eligible proposals of flood management works submitted by the State Governments for inclusion under Flood management Programme for central assistance.

(c) Does not arise.

Losses due to floods in Bihar

†459. SHRI RAJNITI PRASAD: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that this year also there has been huge loss to agriculture, houses and other assets due to flood in dozens of villages including Shuriyahi, Ramnagar, Nanpatti, Mujiyashi etc. of Phulparash block in Madhubani district of Bihar;

(b) whether it is also a fact that out of these villages Shuriyahi village has been ruined completely where no assistance has been provided including the assistance under the amenity provided by the Centre; and

(c) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF WATER RESOURCES (SHRI JAI PRAKASH NARAYAN YADAV): (a) As per the press note released by Department of Disaster Management, Government of Bihar dated 15.10.2008, Madhubani district has not been included as the flood affected district of the State this year.

(b) and (c) Do not arise in view of reply at 'a' above.

Assistance of Nepalese Government for taming of rivers

460. SHRI RAJEEV CHANDRASEKHAR: Will the Minister of WATER RESOURCES be pleased to state:

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.